97 June 10th 1839. 3 97

Dr Hort to
Mr Bradford
May 13. 1839.

David Bradford Esqr
Supt. Br Mint
N. O.

more reason than ever to maintain this position - The assertions & records of the M & R are alike rejected by me as testimony - & until he produces & identifies the Bullion & demonstrates by re-assays that he is right, I shall believe that he was as much in error now as he was last July - There may be an excess of Gold, which however I believe can only be proved by re-assaying all the gold Bullion on hand, or by working it up into standard Ingots - But then, what has that to do with my assays - Errors in weighing may occur as well as errors in assaying, & occasion a loss or a gain of metal -

It is perhaps proper that I should assign one reason for my having no confidence in the statement of the M & R made in his communication of this morning to you - I have kept a record of all the gold I have assayed for the M & R since the settlement of his accounts last Augt- & I have witnesses besides - & I am confident that no man can identify Bullion which is marked as the gold bars have been - they were numbered as follows -

21 Jan 1839 - 1
2
2
3
0
15 feb 5
6
11 Mch 0
1
16 apl 1
19 apl 0
4 may 0

How are bars that have no marks to be distinguished or identified? or how is one number

, to be distinguished from another No 1 - ? The moment I observed this way of marking, I was persuaded that another attack on me was preparing, & I find I was right in my conjecture -

There is an insinuation moreover that I cannot paſs by - "In regard to the first Bullion separated it is difficult to say what depositor should have the exceſs, unleſs it be the E. Bkg Co the gold being returned at an average, which to me is something new in aſsaying" - That a man who knows nothing about aſsaying, should therein find something new, is by no means surprising. But the insinuati that I averaged without aſsaying, & consequently certified that I had done, what I had not done, I repel with the contempt it merits - It is a suspicion worthy of its author -

Every one of the 6 numbers containing gold was aſsayed - the gold was separated from each one & the result confirmed by the humid aſsay -

I remain respectfully

Yrs &c

Wm P. Hort

Aſsayer